



New Hampshire Veterans Home

PO Box 229, 139 Winter St.
Tilton, NH 03276-0229



Barry E. Conway
Commandant

Telephone: (603) 286-4412
Fax : (603) 286-2416

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lisa-Marie Mulkern
Public Affairs and Development Director
Tel. (603) 286-4412
lmulkern@nhvh.state.nh.us

(See photo and caption)

New Hampshire Veterans Home to Host Opening Celebration for Life Enhancement Dementia Unit on Saturday, October 18, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

TILTON, NH – October 13, 2003 – The New Hampshire Veterans Home will celebrate the opening of the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit on Saturday, October 18, 2003. The program begins at 10:00 a.m. and will be preceded by refreshments at 9:30 a.m. Honored guests and speakers who will attend the ceremony include Governor Craig Benson, Executive Councilor Raymond S. Burton, representatives of the US Department of Veterans Affairs, members of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, state officials and representatives of various veteran organizations.

The Life Enhancement Dementia Unit is a state of the art facility dedicated to addressing the unique needs of Residents with Alzheimer's disease and other memory impairment disorders that are collectively referred to as dementia. The facility addition has been designed with a focus on the individual and collective needs of Residents in equivalent stages of dementia. In support of this focus, the 100 - bed addition is divided into small, independent neighborhoods ranging in size from fourteen to twenty-two beds per unit. The neighborhood concept will provide our Residents who suffer from dementia with the highest level of safety, familiarity and activity while ensuring that their long-term health care needs are fully addressed.

-more-

Commandant Barry E. Conway commented, “We are very excited about the facility addition and its ability to enhance the overall quality of life care that NHVH proudly provides to Granite State veterans. NHVH will be a 250-bed long-term care facility capable of providing a continuity of care for the physical, emotional and cognitive changes that our Residents experience as part of the overall aging process.”

Construction of the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit began in April 2002. The project is part of the State Home Construction Program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs contributed \$7,150,000 of the total project cost of \$11,900,000. The State of New Hampshire contributed the remaining \$4,750,000.

About the New Hampshire Veterans Home

The New Hampshire Veterans Home (“NHVH”) was initially established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier’s Home for Civil War Veterans. Today, the modern facility in its countryside setting is home to 150 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State’s elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.

As a professional health care provider, NHVH offers a full range of services including residential, medical/dental and nursing care as well as physical/occupational therapy, recreation, and dietetic and social services. Chapel services, exercise groups, arts and crafts, shopping trips, live entertainment and various community outings support residents’ quality of life. NHVH also offers inter-generational programs and animal-assisted recreational therapy.

-more-

Dedicated staff members work in partnership with volunteers from surrounding communities and numerous veteran service organizations to enrich our residents' lives. NHVH recently completed construction of a 100-bed Life Enhancement Dementia Unit that will serve the long-term care needs of veterans who suffer from Alzheimer's and other related memory impairment disorders. MorrisSwitzer Environments for Health, Inc. based in Williston, Vermont was the architect for the addition. Harvey Construction Corporation of Bedford, New Hampshire served as the project builder.

Additional information is available online at our website www.state.nh.us/veterans

See photo and caption below:



New Hampshire Veterans Home - Life Enhancement Dementia Unit - as photographed by Phil C. Walton, NHVH Resident Council Chaplain.